REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-36 are pending in the application upon entry of this amendment. Claims 1 and 25 have been amended herein. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

I. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of original claim 2, now canceled. Claim 25 has been amended to correct an inadvertent error in applicant's previous amendment. No new matter has been added.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 5-10, 13 AND 31-32 UNDER 35 USC §102(b)

Claims 1, 5-10, 13 and 31-32 initially stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) based on *Tanaka et al. '688*. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection for at least the following reasons.

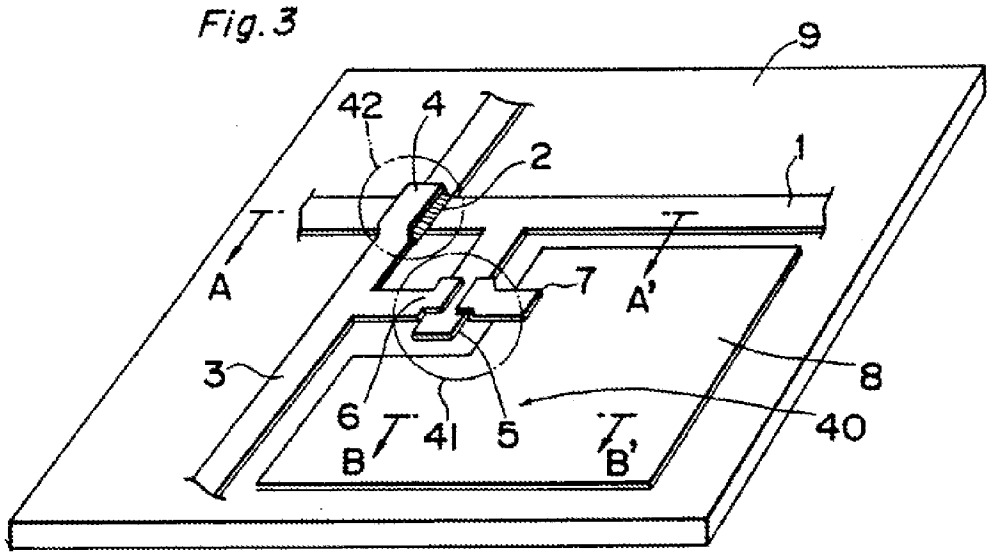
As noted above, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of original claim 2. The Examiner does not reject claim 2 based on *Tanaka et al. '688* alone, and thus the rejection should be withdrawn.

To the extent the Examiner feels the subsequent rejection of claim 2 now applies to amended claim 1, applicant addresses such rejection below.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-2 UNDER 35 USC §103(a)

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) based on *Tanaka-SID* in view of *Tanaka et al. '688*. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Tanaka et al. '688:



Applicant previously argued how Tanaka et al '688 does not teach or suggest the feature of original claim 1 wherein the sensor signals are "generated by and within said display picture elements in response to external stimuli". As is shown in Fig. 3, *Tanaka et al. '688* teaches that the sensor signal is generated within the photodetecting section 42. As is shown in detail in Fig. 4a of *Tanaka et al. '688*, the photodetecting section 42 is interposed between the source line 3 and the gate line 1 at the intersection 4. Therefore, applicant argued that the sensor signal is not generated "by and *within* the display picture element".

The Examiner responded by indicating that the term "display picture element" could be broadly interpreted to incorporate the photodetecting section 42. In order to make more clear such distinction, applicant has amended claim 1 to include the

features of claim 2. Namely, claim 1 now specifies how the "sensor signals are generated by and within an *optically variable region* of the display picture elements". Clearly the photodetecting section 42 interposed between the source line 3 and the gate line 1 at the intersection 4 as shown in Fig. 3 of *Tanaka et al. '688* is not within the optically variable region of the picture element as recited in amended claim 1. Since the Examiner did not reject claim 2 based on *Tanaka et al. '688* alone, the Examiner presumably agrees in such regard.

Tanaka-SID & Tanaka et al. '688:

The Examiner refers to Fig. 4 of *Tanaka-SID* as teaching an array of display picture elements (darkened spots in Fig. 4) arranged as rows and columns, and an output arrangement (HPF, A/D, microcomputer, etc., as shown in Fig. 4) connected to the column data lines for outputting sensor signals generated by and within the display picture elements in response to external stimuli. However, the Examiner acknowledges that *Tanaka-SID* describes a passive matrix display instead of an active matrix display as recited in claim 1. Consequently, the Examiner relies on the teachings of *Tanaka et al. '688* relating to an active-matrix in concluding that it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of *Tanaka-SID* and *Tanaka et al. '688* so as to result in the claimed invention.

Applicant respectfully submits that it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the passive matrix display of *Tanaka-SID* so as to be an active matrix display as proposed by the Examiner. More particularly, *Tanaka-SID* specifically teaches a passive matrix display. *Tanaka-SID* has been found to disclose *only* an external detection circuit (i.e., HPF, A/D, microcomputer, etc.) that is capable of detecting the capacitance change of the LCD panel due to the pressure applied by the finger touch *specifically for a passive matrix display*. *Tanaka-SID* fails to teach or render obvious any external detection circuit that is capable of detecting the capacitance change of the LCD panel for an active matrix display.

Therefore, one having ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to modify *Tanaka-SID*'s passive matrix display as shown in Fig. 4 to an active matrix display. Moreover, even if *Tanaka-SID*'s passive matrix display as shown in Fig. 4 was modified to an active matrix display, the external detection circuit as shown in Fig. 4 would no longer be able to detect the capacitance change of the LCD panel. Thus, such modification would render *Tanaka-SID*'s display unsatisfactory for its intended purpose. Accordingly, again it is noted that it would not have been obvious to modify the passive matrix display of *Tanaka-SID* in the manner proposed by the Examiner.

To wit, Section 2143.01(V) of the MPEP states "[i]f proposed modification would render the prior art invention being modified unsatisfactory for its intended purpose, then there is no suggestion or motivation to make the proposed modification". *In re Gordon*, 733 F.2d 900, 221 USPQ 1125 (Fed. Cir. 1984).

Furthermore, modifying *Tanaka-SID*'s passive matrix display to an active matrix display would also change the principle of operation of the *Tanaka-SID* device. According to Section 2143.01(VI) of the MPEP, the proposed modification cannot change the principle of operation of a reference. If the proposed modification or combination of the prior art would change the principle of operation of the prior art invention being modified, then the teachings of the references are not sufficient to render the claims prima facie obvious. *In re Ratti* 270 F.2d 810, 123 USPQ 349 (CCPA 1959).

Still further, amended claim 1 recites an output arrangement for outputting sensor signals generated by and within the optically variable region of the display picture elements in response to external stimuli for an active matrix display.

Tanaka-SID does not disclose the output arrangement recited in claim 1 because the external detection circuit is to detect the capacitance change of the LCD panel for a passive matrix display, not an active matrix display.

Tanaka et al. '688 also fails to disclose the output arrangement recited in claim 1 because the detection circuit detects the position information signal ("sensor signal") generated by and within the photodetecting section 42, not an optically variable region of the display picture elements.

Therefore, neither *Tanaka-SID* nor *Tanaka et al. '688* teach or render obvious an output arrangement for outputting sensor signals generated by and within the optically variable region of the display picture elements in response to external stimuli for an active matrix display. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of claims 1 and 2 in view of *Tanaka-SID* and Tanaka '688 should be withdrawn.

IV. REMAINING REJECTIONS

The remaining rejections are rendered moot by the inclusion of the features of claim 2 into claim 1.

V. CONCLUSION

Accordingly, all claims 1 and 3-36 are believed to be allowable and the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should a petition for an extension of time be necessary for the timely reply to the outstanding Office Action (or if such a petition has been made and an additional extension is necessary), petition is hereby made and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees (including additional claim fees) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP

/Mark D. Saralino/
Mark D. Saralino
Reg. No. 34,243

DATE: February 14, 2008

The Keith Building
1621 Euclid Avenue
Nineteenth Floor
Cleveland, Ohio 44115
(216) 621-1113